

REMARKS

Claims 1-15 are pending in the Application. The Oath/Declaration is noted as defective. The drawings are objected to. Claims 3, 5, 10, 14 and 15 are objected to. Claims 1, 2, 4, 6-9 and 11-15 are rejected.

Applicant notes Examiner's request to review Applicant's Specification in detail. Applicant assures the Examiner that any errors discovered have been corrected.

OATH/DECLARATION

The Oath or Declaration is noted by the Examiner as defective in Applicant's original submission for failure to include the city and state/foreign country of each inventor. Applicant respectfully submits that Applicant's originally-filed Application Data Sheet is in full compliance with 37 CFR § 1.76. Applicant avers, therefore, that the Oath/Declaration is not defective under 37 CFR §1.63 and respectfully requests that any objection to it be withdrawn.

DRAWINGS

The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a) for failing to show every element in Applicant's claims. For example, Examiner cites the elements of Claim 1 which include an edge detection module (250) that is shown at least in Figure 2. Examiner states that the components of the edge detection module must be also shown. However, 37 CFR 1.83(a) states that "conventional features disclosed in the description and claims, where their detailed illustration is not essential for a proper understanding of the invention, should be illustrated in the drawing in the form of a graphical drawing symbol or a labeled representation...". Applicant respectfully asserts that the illustration of edge detection module (250) is such a conventional feature and that its representation in the drawings is fully compliant with 37 CFR 1.83(a).

Edge detection modules are well known in the relevant art. There are many different circuits employed to serve as edge detection modules. See, for example, Applicant's paragraph [0031] as well as co-owned U.S. Patent 7,227,387 to Alfke and co-owned U.S. Patent 6,594,797 to Dudley et al. Applicant makes no claim as to the circuitry or components of the edge detection module implemented in embodiments of the present invention.

Furthermore, Applicant has complied with Examiner's request to diligently inspect the present application for any instance of claimed elements being insufficiently described. Applicant has found no instance of claimed elements being inadequately described or represented. At least for these reasons, Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the objections to the drawings.

IN THE CLAIMS

Claim Objections

Claims 14 and 15 are objected to for an assumed typographical error in that Claims 14 and 15 were presumed to be improperly dependent from a superior claim. In telephone conversation of Wednesday 8 August 2007 with Examiner Ettehadieh, it was determined that Claims 14 and 15 are, in fact, properly dependent from Claim 13 and there is no lack of antecedent basis or other issue of proper dependency. The Examiner indicated a provisional withdrawal of the objections. Applicant thanks the Examiner for the provisional withdrawal of the objections and requests that it be made formal.

35 U.S.C. § 101

Claims 12-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 because the preamble states an apparatus but the body of the claim is a memory that stores instructions that cause a processing module to perform a method. Applicant has amended Claims 12-15 to more clearly point out and distinctly claim Applicant's patentable subject matter. No

new matter is introduced by entry of these amendments and support for them is found at least in Applicant's paragraph [0031]. In light of the amendments, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 12-15.

35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 12-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 for the same reasons as discussed above in relation to 35 U.S.C. § 101. Applicant respectfully submits that these rejections are rendered moot in light of the above amendments. Again, no new matter is introduced by entry of these amendments.

Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 for failure to comply with the enablement requirement. Specifically, Examiner states that one of ordinary skill in the art would be unable to practice a variable current source which is claimed as an element of dependent Claim 6. Applicant respectfully disagrees. However, in order to expedite allowance of the instant Application, Claim 6 has been cancelled herein, rendering moot the rejection of Claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 112. Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of Claim 6 be withdrawn.

35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 8 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application 2002/0126787 by Homol et al. Though Applicant respectfully disagrees with the rejection, the rejection with respect to Claim 1 is moot as the allowable limitations of Claim 3 have been incorporated into Claim 1. Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection.

Regarding Claim 8, Applicant respectfully disagrees with the rejection. However, Claim 8 has been amended by the incorporation of the allowable limitations of Claim 10, rendering the rejection of Claim 8 moot.

Regarding Claim 12, the allowable limitations of Claim 14 have been incorporated into Claim 12, making its rejection moot. Similarly, Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection.

35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 2, 4, 9, 11, 13 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Homol, above, in view of U.S. Patent 6,256,362 to Goldman. Applicant respectfully disagrees with the rejections; however, the rejections are now moot because of the amendments and cancellations entered above.

Claim 2 has been cancelled, its allowable limitation incorporated, with those of Claim 3, into Claim 1. Thus the rejection of Claim 2 is moot. Claim 4 depends from allowable Claim 1 and its rejection is now moot. Claim 9 depends from allowable Claim 8, thus its rejection is similarly moot.

Regarding Claims 13 and 15 which depend from Claim 12. As discussed above, the allowable limitations of Claim 14 have been incorporated into Claim 12 and Claim 14 has been cancelled. As Claims 13 and 15 depend from Claim 12, their respective rejections are moot.

Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Homol, above, in view of U.S. Patent Application 2004/0085108 by Murata et al. Applicant respectfully disagrees with the rejection. However, the rejection is moot in the light of the amendment of Claim 1 from which Claim 7 depends. As Claim 1 is allowable, so too is Claim 7. Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of all the mooted rejections above.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER.

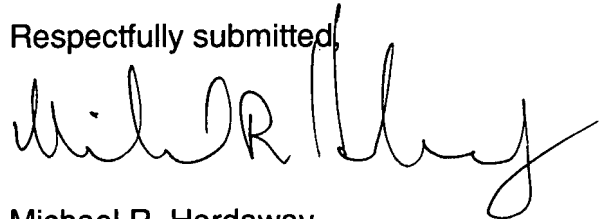
Claims 3, 5, 10 and 14 are noted as allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicant thanks the Examiner for this recognition of allowable subject matter. However, the allowable limitations of Claim 3 have been incorporated into Claim 1, including those of intervening Claim 2. Claims 2 and 3 have been cancelled. Claim 5 depends from allowable Claim 1, and is, therefore, allowable. The allowable limitations of Claim 10 have been incorporated into Claim 8. The allowable limitations of Claim 14 have been incorporated into Claim 12. Claims 10 and 14 have been cancelled. Claims 4 and 5 have been amended to reflect proper dependency.

CONCLUSION

Claims 1-15 are pending in the Application. Claims 1, 4, 5, 8, 12, 13, and 15 have been amended. Claims 2, 3, 6, 10 and 14 have been cancelled without prejudice. All claims should now be in condition for allowance and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

If there are any questions, the Applicants' attorney can be reached at Tel: 408-879-6149 (Pacific Standard Time).

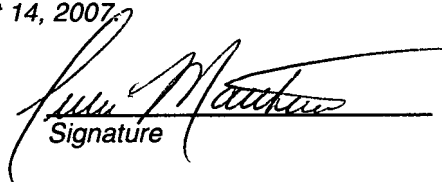
Respectfully submitted,



Michael R. Hardaway
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 52,992

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on August 14, 2007.

Julie Matthews
Name


Signature